

THE
SECOND REPORT
OF THE
LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S
CHINESE HOSPITAL,

AT
PEKING,

UNDER THE CARE OF
W. LOCKHART, F. R. C. S.

For the year 1863.

SHANGHAE
LONDON MISSION PRESS.

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For the year 1883

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LONDON MISSIONARY PRESS

1884

REPORT
OF THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S
CHINESE HOSPITAL, PEKING,
For the Year 1863.

The work of the hospital and dispensary has been carried on during the last twelve months without interruption. Considerable additions have been made to the accommodation for patients, and though the premises are necessarily very different from a European hospital, still they answer the purpose for which they were intended.

The same general plan has been followed this year as before. The out-patients have been attended to every day, and all classes of people have applied for relief. The entire number of individuals has not been so great as in the former year, but the diminution is to be accounted for, by the fact that fewer incurables have presented themselves, while a larger number of recent and curable cases have been seen during this year, than in the previous period of fifteen months from the opening of the hospital.

There have been 10,251 separate cases attended to, during the past twelve months. Numbers of these have been seen daily, or twice, or thrice a week for a long time, and almost all of them several times; but each case is registered only once, on being first seen, and no record is kept of subsequent visits.

Many of the patients have come from various cities and towns in the province, and also from different and distant places beyond the Great Wall.

A Corean merchant who was here in the Spring, applied for medical aid, and asked for books on Natural Science and the histories of Western nations. He said that a copy of Dr. Hobson's

works in Chinese on Natural philosophy, Anatomy, Surgery, &c. had been given to a friend of his last year, and that an edition of the whole set of five volumes had been printed in Corea. I was much interested in this statement, and wished to see a copy of the reprint, which he promised to bring when he revisited Peking, or send it by a friend to me. Educated Coreans are always very anxious to obtain books in Chinese, containing general information on any subject. They often ask if I have any new thing to give them, such as may not yet have been sent to Corea. Maps, Plates of steam engines, Diagrams of animals, Drawings of machinery, are all very acceptable, and when asked what they will do with them, they invariably say, that they have friends at home, who can understand them, and who have told them to bring everything of the kind they can obtain from foreigners in China.

The early part of the Winter of 1862—63 was very cold, and it was supposed that the amount of cold would have been greater than during the preceding winter, but this was not the case. The lowest degree of cold registered in January was 8° above zero, whereas in January of the former year it was 6° below zero. The cold in December 1862 was greater than in January 1863, the thermometer having then fallen to 3° above zero. The average for the month was also lower, and thus December was the coldest month of the winter. After the 20th of January, the weather gradually became milder; the ice on the canal melted early, and that on the Pei-ho broke up very soon afterwards, so that the mouth of the river at Taku was open on February 20th, or perhaps a day or two earlier. The river usually becomes frozen at the end of November, but the first spring tide of December breaks up the ice, and the river is again open till the 15th or 20th, when it is finally frozen hard, and remains closed till the last spring tide in February or the first in March; so that the stoppage of the river navigation, is from the middle of December to the end of February or beginning of March. The extent of surface frozen outside Taku is about 20 or 30 miles from the shore, varying according to the severity of the cold, but the ice outside the bar is frequently much broken up during gales of wind, and is always very rough and covered with hummocks.

The cold abated this year earlier than usual, but the frost con-

tinned till April 5th; the nights were cold and sharp, but during the day the sun was warm and genial. Vegetation also began early; the grass and the trees soon felt the effect of the warmth and became green. Very little snow fell during the winter, one inch in January and one in February being all that was registered. This was of course additional to the snow that fell in November and December 1862, as mentioned in the former report. Up to the 31st of December, no snow has fallen; on the 7th December there was a thick fog in the morning, and what is very unusual at that season, a slight drizzle during the day; this was succeeded by a gale of wind, and the weather became very cold.

It is certainly very surprising to see the change that takes place from Winter to Spring. The winter is extremely dry and the ground appears not to contain a drop of water, all being brown and dusty, but the increasing heat of the sun soon takes effect on the vegetable world, notwithstanding the lack of rain and snow. From November 8th to May 16th last, only one inch of rain fell. Such a drought was unusual, and it told injuriously on the wheat crop. Many wheat fields were very poor, but those that were situated on low ground bore a pretty good crop, and the wheat harvest at the end of May was not very much below the average,—not nearly so much so as was anticipated, after the long-continued drought. On inquiring from the reapers during the harvest, how it was that the crop was of average fulness, notwithstanding the great want of rain, they said that the kind of wheat sown in this neighbourhood required very little rain and was a *dry-land* crop. In fact it seemed so, for the face of the country was badly clothed with verdure, though so late in the year. Very little rain fell in June, and it was not till the beginning of July, that there were any heavy refreshing showers. Since that time, there has been frequent rain, and all the autumn crops were good, even heavier than usual. The millet was very large in the ear, and the yams or sweet potatoes were extremely abundant. These crops were all gathered in, as the second harvest, by the end of September, when the fields were reploughed, and sown with wheat which was above ground by the end of the first week in October.

The dust storms of last Spring were very frequent, owing to the almost total want of rain. The ground was very dry, and we had

often a dust storm every day. The most unpleasant one that occurred was in June, when the thermometer was above 90 degrees, and the clouds of sand were very suffocating; the heat was so great, that the windows and doors could not be closed, and the sensation was like what living in a dusty oven may be supposed to be.

The beginning of the winter of this year was mild and pleasant, but in the middle of December the weather became as cold as it usually is, and by the 28th of the month, the ice was a foot thick, and the keepers of the ice houses began to cut and store it for use next summer.

From somewhat more than two years experience of this city and neighbourhood, and observation of its peculiarities of climate, I am led to believe that the locality is a healthy one. It is true that the great changes of temperature in the Spring and Autumn months, and the severe cold of the winter, produce much disease of the lungs, also that phthisis prevails here largely, and that many persons suffer from asthma, bronchitis and hæmoptysis. Still on the whole, from the dryness of the atmosphere, and almost constant sunshine, the average health is good, and I believe that Europeans can enjoy a full share of health here, and probably be as well as in their native land. The amount of sickness among Europeans is, I think, decidedly less, compared with the number of the individuals, than in any other part of China, in which I have resided. During the two years and a half, that I have lived in Peking, I have had the chief number of European residents, amounting to about 100 altogether, under my care, besides a large number of visitors; and for one year, I had entire charge of the whole. Only two deaths have occurred during the above period, one from cholera during the epidemic of last year, the sufferer being considerably weakened by chronic diarrhœa, and the other from apoplexy; which strengthens the supposition that the climate is not insalubrious. I have also noticed that the stage of convalescence after attacks of various illness is short. Patients soon recover their strength and vigour.

There is also great advantage in being able to send invalids and convalescents to the range of Western hills, or beyond the Great Wall for change of air and variety of scene. This in great

degree compensates for the want of ready access to the coast, under such circumstances of health as require change of place. The advantages of having access to the elevated plateau of Mongolia are very great. The change from the climate of the extensive and low-lying valley of Peking, to the lofty grass lands of that region, is one that has a very powerful influence, the fine clear air blowing over the upland plains, being very exhilarating.

All those who have gone into Mongolia on hunting excursions in the autumn, have been much charmed with the freshness of the climate, where they can remain on horseback almost all day without undue fatigue. The change of climate and the excitement of hunting the Hwang-yang or antelope which abounds there, have a powerful effect in reinvigorating the system, after the debilitating influences of the tropical heat of the summer.

It is very astonishing, in the bitterly cold weather of the winter months, to see the beggars go about the streets, almost without any clothing. Very often they have only a single ragged jacket and a pair of shoes, and they are to be seen in the early morning just after sunrise, sleeping in open rooms or even in doorways, with a few rags for covering, when the thermometer is but little above zero. Some of the beggars are sleek and fat, but great numbers of them die every winter, and many lose their feet from frost-bite. One of them came to the hospital last spring, having both feet black and gangrenous, with the tibia exposed as far as the middle of the leg. He shortly afterwards lost both his feet, which separated at the ancles. He came to the hospital many times, where he was carefully attended to. Money was given him to buy food, and he improved in general health; the tibia meanwhile was separating at the point where it was covered with living flesh. He probably found, however, that he could obtain more money from begging, as he had an investment for exciting sympathy in the state of his legs. He ceased to attend, or his friends whom he hired to bring him in a basket, tired of their labour. He was afterwards seen at one of the city gates, exposing his limbs as an incentive to charity.

I have never seen so many beggars in any city as in Peking, nor so low and degraded a class as exists here. I had rather a large experience of beggars, at the rice kitchen attached to the

hospital at Shanghai, but the beggars there were as nothing in number, compared to those of the same profession in the capital.

During the winter months, large crowds of beggars are seen every morning, at certain places, where boiled millet is given to them, partly paid for by the government, and partly by voluntary contributions. There is one such place generally at a temple, or in an open court yard, outside each of the city gates, and a few extra places are appointed in various parts of the Chinese city. The distribution takes place at the same hour at all the stations, namely at 8 o'clock, so that the beggars cannot go from one to another. Crowds of beggars and of the poor people living in the neighbourhood come for the cooked millet.

All the children of the families are brought to receive their share in the distribution, and a strange assembly of ragged and tattered specimens of humanity, is seen thus congregated. Great order is observed, and at the stations provided by the Imperial bounty, an officer presides. All the crowd is gathered together in the open yard, and as each person passes through a narrow door, a large measure full of the hot cooked millet is given to them, and carried away in a bowl, a basket, a cup, the corner of a jacket, or a piece of cloth, as the case may be. Much of the food is carried home by the better class of the poor, but the beggars squat on the ground outside the door, and devour their portion at once, so as to get the benefit of it, while it is still hot from the great cooking boiler.

I lately visited the places where the chief part of those beggars sleep, who can afford to pay for a night's lodging. They may be called beggar's homes, and are situated outside the gates of the Tartar city, some in the Chinese city, others in the eastern and western suburbs. The lanes in which they are located are of the poorest and lowest description. The houses used for the beggars are called *Siau-t'een* or small inns; they are low cottages, generally containing only one large room. The windows are well covered with oiled paper and are kept in good repair, so as effectually to exclude the cold wind; the door has a cord and weight attached to it, so that it always closes at once after any one has passed through. In the centre of the room is a fire place, both for warming the room and boiling water to make tea. Here the keeper of

the room sits and sleeps and manages his guests. At either end of the room are large kangas or stove-bed places, which are kept warm by a fire under them; on this, a mat is stretched, and the beggars lie down, without any bed clothes, in fact generally without any clothes at all. They each pay two large cash, equal to one-third of a penny for a night's lodging. From 20 to 30 persons assemble in such a room, and lie on the kangas as close as they possibly can. The temperature of the rooms was about 70 degrees, when I visited them early in the morning, but the state of the atmosphere was extremely disgusting, from the respiration of so many individuals; the rooms, however, were tolerably clean, and there was no filth in any of them, though it was otherwise outside. The beggars were then starting to pursue their profession in the streets of the city, and were for the most part fat and well-looking, very different in appearance to their brethren, who spend the nights in this inclement season, in doorways and other exposed situations.

Loathsome as is the heated air in these beggar's homes, it is still a matter of great consideration, that they are able to obtain lodging in a warm room for the night, when the thermometer is much below freezing point, especially when they have no blanket or coverlet to protect themselves. Though the associations of such a place are bad, yet lodging and warmth are to be obtained there, and I should think a beggar must be very destitute indeed, who cannot afford the small pittance required by the keeper for these comforts.

It has been generally supposed, on the authority of some of the earlier European residents in Peking last century, that infanticide prevails to a great extent here, and also that many infants are daily left in the streets, to take their chance of being rescued by the charity of passers by, or to perish from cold and hunger. It has also been said that carts traverse the city every morning, to carry away the bodies of such infants.

What may have been the case in former times, I cannot say, but a pretty extensive acquaintance with all parts of the city and suburbs, soon after daylight in the morning, and at all times of the year, leads me to the conclusion, that infanticide does not exist as a prevailing practice among the people. A living child exposed in the streets has never been seen by me. Many children of

course die in infancy, and the custom of the natives is never to use a coffin for a toothless child, but to wrap up the body in a mat, and place it in a kind of tower occasionally found on the edge of public cemeteries; but sometimes the parents are too indolent to take this trouble, and leave the bundle on dust heaps in the corners of streets or other places. The dogs soon attack these matted bundles and tear them open, and part of the bodies of infants are thus often seen lying about. But I have never seen a living child left in the streets, nor any evidence of infanticide being practised. Doubtless the children of poverty and shame do often meet with an untimely death, as in other lands, but among the very lowest grade of beggars, mothers appear to take what care they can of their children, and when they are sick, have repeatedly brought them to the hospital for medicine. Many of these children die from cold during the winter, and I know that large numbers died during last summer from diarrhœa; of this I saw constant evidence. But I wholly deny that infanticide prevails here as has been supposed. Here and there a woman has been known to treat her child in a cruel and neglectful manner, and to be willing to give it to any one who would take it. Numbers of children are also sold, especially females who are purchased by families, and kept till they are grown up, when they are made use of as servants, and occasionally are married to the sons of the family, but this custom obtains in all parts of China.

That many children die in the winter is not surprising, when the cold is so great as it is in this region, and consequently inflammation of the lungs and croup are prevalent, among the insufficiently clothed infants of the poor.

There was no epidemic cholera in Peking last summer, though a few cases are said to have occurred amongst the Chinese, and some children were brought to the hospital, who were dying to all appearance of cholera, and beyond any relief from medicine.

There was no epidemic of small-pox in the spring. Usually there are numerous cases of this disease in the early months of the year, but only a few cases were met with during the last twelve months.

Many cases of low continued fever were seen in the summer, but so far as is known, they were all cured in two or three weeks. Quinine was freely used in these cases.

In the later weeks of the winter, three or four Europeans had a low type of typhoid fever with rose-coloured spots. Purgatives and salines were given for a day or two, any local complication was at once attended to, and then as early as possible stimulants were employed, especially wine in the form of good claret, which they drank very eagerly. Under this course of treatment, the fever passed off with all the typhoid symptoms, and the patients speedily recovered.

Cases of hydrophobia occur here at times, but none have been brought to the hospital. The natives are much alarmed when bitten by the street dogs; and many such cases were constantly seen, but they all yielded to treatment without any subsequent bad symptoms. I saw a dog in the streets one morning which was apparently mad, in the act of being beaten to death by long poles. Shortly before, it had bitten two or three dogs and a man, but I could not find him, so as to see whether he had been bitten or only frightened. Had he been really bitten by a dog that was probably mad, it would have been necessary to remove the flesh around the wounds. However he was afterwards heard of.

As mentioned in last report, necrosis of parts of the upper and lower jaws is very common here; and several cases have been seen, in which large portions of these bones have had to be taken away. In the case of one who lately recovered and went home, one half of the lower jaw which caused him great suffering, was removed to his instant relief. In another case still under treatment, nearly the whole of the upper jaw is necrosed and will require similar treatment.

Many cases of enormous carbuncle have been operated on, and some of the worst possible cases of palmar and thecal abscess have been frequently seen. The people seem to be well aware of the propriety of such accumulations of pus being evacuated, and seldom make the slightest demur to the performance of the painful process by which it is done.

A man applied to me regarding a tumour on his arm which had to be removed. He had only one leg, and said that he was a soldier. His leg was shot off at the battle of Chang-këa-wan, when he had been taken care of at the English hospital, and one of the surgeons, whose name he did not know, had amputated below the

knee. The stump was a very good one, and the man expressed a grateful recollection of the kindness that had been shown him, during his long residence in the Military hospital.

Many cases of cancer, more especially of the tongue and sub-maxillary glands in men, and of the breast in women, have been seen, but they were all of long standing and unfit for operation. A woman from the Western hills lived some time in the hospital, who had an enormous open cancer of the breast, involving also the glands in the axilla, and spreading over the thorax. She stayed for a time on account of the relief experienced from anodynes, lotions &c. and after her return home, supplies of medicine were periodically sent to her, but she soon died, worn out by constant suffering.

Cancrum oris in children has also frequently come under notice during the year. The cases were all far advanced, and though some of the individuals were much benefited for a time, I believe they all died. In one child the slough involved the nose and the whole of one cheek. As in the previous year, very numerous cases of goitre have been seen, the village population of this district being much affected by the disease.

One morning, a child of seven years old was carried into the surgery, covered with blood, which was flowing freely from a large spongy mass on the scalp. I could not at first see what the nature of the mass was, but the father said, that the child had a tumour on its head, and a native surgeon tied a string round it some days before, which made it bleed, till at last the blood began to flow as it was now doing, and then he brought the child to me. I cut off the hair, and found below it, a small putrid mass, from which blood was pouring. On removing this, I perceived two arteries bleeding freely. Passing a needle and thread under them, and tying the thread I soon stopped the bleeding. In a few days, the wound healed, and there was no more flow, but had this not been attended to, the child would probably have bled to death.

As mentioned in the last report, regarding a case of sloughing of the arm, the mode of acupuncture so much practised by the Chinese in various diseases, is sometimes followed by very serious results. This occurred during the past year in two instances. One was in the case of a boy who being sick, had been

acupunctured on the arm. The arm inflamed, and when he was brought to me, there were large sloughs of the whole arm from the shoulder to the wrist. The utmost that could be done for him was tried, but he was so reduced that he very soon died. In another case, of an elderly man, the acupuncture of the leg was followed by erysipelas and extensive suppuration, which were almost fatal, but he ultimately recovered.

A man came to the surgery in July, who had complete paralysis of both arms. He said he had been tortured at one of the Yammuns, to extract a confession from him. A long flat pole used for carrying burdens, was placed behind the neck, the head having been fastened by his quene, which was tied to a beam above him. His arms were passed behind the pole, while the fore-arms were brought forward and tied in front. The man being held in this constrained position, the questions were again put to him, and when he could not or did not answer, a man at each end of the pole, moved his end of it up and down, alternately with great force. This violently extends the shoulders producing great agony. As the prisoner said he had nothing to confess, the torture was continued for some time, the results being, that from the great stretching of the nerves in the armpits and arms, both limbs were absolutely paralyzed, and they lay like dead limbs in a sling. Various modes of treatment and electro-magnetism were tried for relief, but wholly without benefit.

In August a man was brought in, who had been working in a stone-mason's yard, when a slab of stone fell on him, which fractured his thigh. He was taken in and placed in a ward. Splints were applied and all done for him that was possible, money being also given to him and to his friend, who was to wait on him, for their food. He went on well for the first day. On the second day, he was tolerably well, and after the limb had been to some extent readjusted and his bed made comfortable, his attendant went to buy him a slice of melon; but as the last of the out-patients was being seen, this man ran into the surgery, saying that his friend was bleeding from the mouth. On going into the ward, I found the patient's face livid and swollen, with the eyes protruding, and I thought he was dead. Jumping on the bed, I raised his head and then saw a piece of bandage tied tightly round the neck, which

was at once cut, the mouth forced open, the tongue drawn forwards, and the thorax compressed at intervals. For some time he did not breathe; but shortly after, respiration gradually commenced, and the man regained his consciousness. It was then seen that he had removed the looped bandage of the long splint, which must have been very troublesome to do, as it had been securely fastened, and then tied this bandage firmly round his neck and so effectually, that he was all but dead when I found him. On being asked why he had done this, he said he felt uncomfortable and thirsty, and thought his friend was a long time in bringing the melon he wanted, so he determined to kill himself. It was many days before he got over the indisposition caused by this strangling of himself, his neck was very painful, his tongue much lacerated, and congestion of the lungs ensued, from which he suffered much. This interfered with the union of the fractured bone, and also produced such a state of bodily weakness, that the slight but unavailable pressure of the bandages of the long splint, produced abrasion of the skin. The parts of the other thigh and foot which were simply bruised on occasion of the original accident, suppurated and were very troublesome. Under these untoward circumstances, the case did not progress satisfactorily, and much shortening of the limb resulted.

One day a man was carried into the hospital, who had fallen in the street, having been suddenly seized with violent hæmoptysis. When brought in, the blood was pouring from his mouth, and he very soon died, from the lungs being deluged with blood, to such an extent that he could not breathe. Nothing was known of his friends or where he had come from, and he was buried in one of the public free cemeteries.

Two cases of suffocation by carbonic acid gas from burning charcoal, while sleeping on the kang in which the fire was lighted, have occurred during this winter. It appeared that the men had made too large a fire with charcoal on cold nights, and having lain down to sleep on the kang or stove-bed place, they were found dead in the morning.

Other cases might be mentioned, but the above are sufficient to indicate the routine of work carried on at the hospital, and they are described, not as possessing any great medical or surgical in-

terest, but simply as showing the kind of patients that present themselves, and the classes of maladies that are most frequently seen here.

As to the religious instruction given to the patients, it may be stated, that many copies of the Chinese New Testament and various books on the leading truths of Christianity have been presented to them, and the Revd. J. Edkins and a native preacher have held daily services in the hall, during the time that the patients were waiting for their turn to go into the surgery. In this way, much Christian knowledge has been imparted, and it is hoped not without good effect. We think that the endeavour to teach and to heal should be carried on together.

This establishment is not the only one now in Peking, in connection with Protestant Missions. Dr. J. A. Stewart of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, has lately obtained premises in another quarter of the city, and is beginning to attend patients at this new hospital, which it is hoped will be very successful, and answer his highest expectations.

By the residence of Medical Missionaries and the establishment of hospitals in Peking, much good will be done to the inhabitants of the city and its vicinity, and thus by healing and teaching, the Gospel will be made known among them. The primary object of the hospital is to heal the sick and help those who suffer from disease and pain, and then by the preaching of the Word of Life, to give the people the means of spiritual renovation, so as to lead them to Him, who is our only Saviour, Teacher and Guide—the Lord Jesus Christ.

As one evidence that the hospital has not been without effect, the following translation of an advertisement extensively circulated, may be cited, showing that the native surgeons attempt to palm upon the people remedies for diseases of the eyes, purporting to have been obtained from the hospital.

"THE PAOU-MING APOTHECARY'S SHOP."

"This shop has recently received the Paou-ming (precious and clear) eye medicine of the English nation in the West. It is a remedy divinely communicated, of great fame and wonderful effi-

cacy. Men and women, old and young, with diseases of the eye, whether recent or chronic should use it.

"It is useful for eyes affected by cold or inflamed, red or suffused, or where a red swelling of the eye has suddenly arisen, or where there is a painful itching, causing much suffering, like a nail in the eye turning round and accompanied by weeping, so that the patient cannot rest by day or sleep at night, or if he fears the light and shuns it as if ashamed, or if the ball of the eye becomes distended and appears as if it were turned round with its back to the light, or if by inflammation, a cover comes over the eye, or for any of the other seventy two diseases of the eyes. In these cases, it will give sight to the blind, and its virtues are too many to record. It is a genuine Western medicine. Use cold water and at bed time apply to the eye a little of the medicine with a bone hair pin. In two or three days, the eye will be as clear as a mirror, and twice as capable of seeing as before. Sold at the Lane of Filial piety, with a foreign stamp affixed."

The stamp is an attempt to imitate a foreign seal. Round the edge are the words "Hospital corks," and in the centre some miscellaneous letters and numerals without meaning. At first I supposed, that the medicine thus advertised, had been stolen from the surgery, but such was not the case. It is a powder contained in a little native bottle, and apparently consists of carbonate of zinc, mixed with chalk and coloured of a light pink shade. I have no means of knowing whether it has had an extensive sale or not. The paper shows that European modes of treating diseases of the eye have a great reputation, or the native surgeons would not endeavour to imitate them.

As one evidence that the hospital has the following translation of an advertisement extensively circulated, may be cited showing that the native surgeons attempt to gain upon the people remedies for diseases of the eye, purporting to have been obtained from the hospital.

"The Pao-ming Apothecary's shop."
"This shop has recently received the Pao-ming (precious and clear) eye medicine of the Pao-ming nation in the West. It is a remedy directly communicated of great fame and wonderful efficacy."

ABSTRACT OF OBSERVATIONS of self-registering Thermometer, placed in the open air, at Peking, from January 1st to December 31st, 1863.

1863.	Maximum by day.	Minimum by day.	Maximum by night.	Minimum by night.	Average by day.	Average by night.	Days when rain fell.	Amount of rain.	
January	44	26	24	8	35	16	—	—	Snow 1 inch.
February	60	33	37	11	44	22	—	—	Snow 1 inch.
March	66	40	44	18	52	30	2	$\frac{1}{4}$ in.	
April	78	53	55	29	66	40	1	$\frac{1}{4}$ "	
May	97	70	65	41	82	52	3	$\frac{3}{4}$ "	
June	98	78	70	51	90	61	11	2 "	
July	97	70	73	55	86	64	13	12 "	
August	93	70	72	50	84	62	10	$3\frac{1}{2}$ "	
September	83	55	57	37	70	49	9	$5\frac{1}{2}$ "	
October	69	50	50	31	62	40	2	$\frac{1}{2}$ "	
November	56	32	40	16	44	29	5	1 "	
December	45	19	32	7	33	17	1	—	Slight drizzle

As a conclusion to this report, I think it may be interesting to add the following notes on the Physical Geography of this district, of which hitherto little has been known. They were kindly furnished by R. Pompelly Esqr., a Mining Engineer from the United States, who was lately employed by the Japanese Government in the investigation of the mineral wealth of that country. Being on a visit to Peking, he was also requested by the Chinese Government to report on the coal mines in the neighbourhood.

He says, that the skeleton of the Si-shan or Western Hills (beginning about 12 miles from this city) is of Granite, on which repose the more or less inclined strata of the coal formation. The members of the coal formation are,—

1st and oldest.—Limestone.

2nd—Porphyry Conglomerate.

3rd—Sandstones, Shales and Conglomerates, alternating with beds of Coal.

The main development of the coal formation seems to be on the eastern side of the mountains, and there is undoubtedly a large extent of it under the great plain. Further into the mountains are isolated basins of the Carboniferous Limestone.

On the great road from Peking, to the second post station in Mongolia, the following formations are met with:—

From Peking to the town of Nan-kow, which is situated at the mouth of the pass through the first or inner part of the Great Wall, extends the great alluvial plain of Chih-li. From Nan-kow to a little beyond Keu-yung-kwan within the pass, the rocks are Limestone. From the last point, to the town of Cha-tow beyond the pass, the formation is Granite. From Cha-tow to Hwai-lai-hëen, the surface is river alluvial. Thence to Sha-ch'eng older alluvial terraces. Thence to Ke-ming, river alluvial. Near Ke-ming, where the road enters the mountains, there is a coal basin consisting of sandstones and shales, with seams of anthracite, the whole overlying Limestone. Beyond this basin, the limestone is succeeded by more ancient strata of Schalestein, possibly Devonian, which disappears under the alluvial plain of Seu-en-lwa foo. From this plain to Chang-këa-k'ow or the Kalgan pass, through the outer part of the Great Wall, into Mongolia, there are hills of Felsitic Porphyry over an extensive region. Beyond the Porphyry, there is a series of metamorphic crystalline slates.

In the pass itself, this Porphyry is seen to traverse sandstone, probably carboniferous. At and about T'ow-tai, the plain consists of Amygdaloid Trap, in parts covered by alluvial. Near T'ow-t'ai, there is a small basin of brown Coal. This point was the limit of the investigation for the present.

Mr. Pompelly found in the valley beyond the Western hills, in the neighbourhood of Chai-tang, several mines of bituminous and anthracite coal. The beds of bituminous coal are very extensive, and the coal itself was found by dry analysis, to be of the best quality for steam purposes, and quite equal to any brought from England or other places. By the Chinese mode of mining, no great supply can be obtained, but by the introduction of steam machinery, and a railroad to Tientsin or Taku, coal of first rate quality, and at a cheap rate, could be supplied in any quantity, required for the use of steamers on the coast of China. The seams of coal are very thick, and appear to extend over a large extent of the country in that vicinity; the only limit to the supply being the means of working the mines. Notwithstanding this vast amount of mineral wealth, it is doubtful whether the Chinese Government will be willing to allow the coal beds to be efficiently worked.

On the great road from Peking to the second pass, the following formations are met with:—

W. LOCKHART IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE CHINESE HOSPITAL, PEKING,
FROM JANUARY 1ST 1863, TO DECEMBER 31ST 1863.

1863.	Taels.	Cts.	1863.	Taels.	Cts.
Donation from W. S. Brown, Esqr.....	300	„	January 1. Balance of last account,	124	65
„ from Edward Webb, Esqr.....	500	„	March Printing Report,	30	„
„ from a friend,	3	50	May Painting and repairs,	200	„
„ F. R. St. John, Esqr.....	28	„	Dec. 31. Furniture for wards, &c.....	46	40
„ Col. Shadwell,	6	50	„ Half rent for one year,.....	150	„
„ W. G. Howell, Esqr.	30	„	„ Medicines from Shanghai,.....	75	80
„ W. Robison, Esqr.....	124	65	„ Medicines bought here,	30	30
„ H. Matheson, Esqr.			„ Sundries, coals, &c.....	29	„
„ Travers Buxton, Esqr.....			„ Food for poor patients,.....	56	„
„ Osborn Springfield, Esqr.....			„ Wages of Surgery attendant and } ...	192	60
			servants,		
			„ Balance in favour of the hospital,.....	57	90
	Taels	992 65		Taels	992 65

1864.
Donation from W. S. Brown, Esqr.....Taels 300

PEKING,

December 31st, 1863.

W. LOCKHART.